REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action dated February 18, 2010. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 are independent claims. Claims 19 and 20 are added by this amendment.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-6 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,314,196 to Yamaguchi ("Yamaguchi") in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0125993 to Zhao et al. (Zhao). Claims 7 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamaguchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,799,098 to Ort ("Ort"). Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamaguchi in view of Ort and further in view of "A personnel identity verification method using DAB fingerprints (Pattern recognition)", 1998, by Pedro Vizcaya ("Vizcaya"). These rejections are respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-19 are allowable over Yamaguchi alone and in view of any combination of Zhao, Ort and Vizcaya for at least the following reasons.

It is undisputed that Yamaguchi does not teach, disclose or suggest "storing the control value V and the criteria together as the generated authentication data to a storage device, wherein the criteria is not a member of property sets utilized for generating the control value V". (See, the Final Office Action, page 4).

Zhao, paragraph [0083], lines 1-7 is cited to provide that which is admitted missing from Yamaguchi, however, it is respectfully submitted that reliance on Zhao is misplaced.

Zhao, paragraph [0083], lines 1-7 states the following (emphasis added):

At block 660, the one or more minutiae sets and other features to be used for fingerprint verification are analyzed, and at block 670 a minutiae set, other fingerprint features, and an optimum score threshold are selected. At block 680, <u>the fingerprint features and score threshold are stored in memory at a location where fingerprint matching will occur,</u> for example at a network security server, or at a wireless communications handset.

Thus, while Zhao does show that fingerprint features are stored together with a selected optimum score threshold, it is respectfully submitted that the selected optimum score threshold has nothing to do with the claims as presented in the present application. Particularly, it is respectfully submitted that the <u>stored selected optimum score threshold of Zhao is not utilized to create fingerprint features that are stored with the selected optimum score threshold</u>.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Zhao fails to provide that which is admitted missing from Yamaguchi.

Further, in rejecting the authenticating element of claim 15, the Final Office Action cites Yamaguchi at col. 30, lines 25-35 (see, Final Office Action, page 9). However, it is respectfully submitted that reliance on this portion of Yamaguchi or any portion for that matter is misplaced. It is respectfully submitted that in claim 15, as in claims 1, 14, 16, 17 and 18, (illustrative emphasis added) "<u>the criteria that is retrieved</u> as a portion of the authentication data <u>is used for generating the retrieved control value and for generating the authentication control value</u>" as recited in claim 15 and as similarly recited in each of claims 1, 14, 16, 17 and 18.

The referenced section of Yamaguchi does not teach disclose or suggest that the criteria that is retrieved is used for generating the <u>retrieved control value and the</u>

authentication control value that are compared to each other for authenticating the object.

The "criteria" of claim 15 is rejected (see, the Final Office Action, page 9) in view of Yamaguchi, col. 22, lines 1-6. Reliance on this section of Yamaguchi or any section for that matter is similarly misplaced.

Yamaguchi at col. 22, lines 1-6 states (emphasis added):

> The fingerprint checking unit 22 checks the registered fingerprints with the affixed fingerprint, and can be composed of a host computer. Since the fingerprint checking unit 22 and the fingerprint registering device 21 have a common function in processing the fingerprint, they can be achieved by the same computer.

It is respectfully submitted that in claim 15, as in claims 1, 14, 16, 17 and 18, (illustrative emphasis added) "the criteria that is retrieved as a portion of the authentication data is used for generating the retrieved control value and for generating the authentication control value" as recited in claim 15 and as similarly recited in each of claims 1, 14, 16, 17 and 18. As should be clear from Yamaguchi, the common function of Yamaguchi is not retrieved as a portion of the authentication data, even though the checking device and registering device of Yamaguchi may be the same computer.

The referenced section of Yamaguchi does not teach disclose or suggest that the criteria that is retrieved as a portion of the authentication data is used for generating the retrieved control value and the authentication control value that are compared to each other for authenticating the object.

It is respectfully submitted that the "criteria" of claim 15 is used for generating the retrieved control value and for generating the authentication control value irrespective of

whether or not the same computer is utilized for generating the retrieved control value and for generating the authentication control value because the criteria of the claims is retrieved as a portion of the authentication data. The term "criteria" used in the claims corresponds to the term "helper data" discussed throughout the present application and is not taught, disclosed or suggested by Yamaguchi.

With regard to claim 1, the Final Office Action references Yamaguchi, col. 18, lines 61-63 for showing the "criteria" of claim 1. However, it is respectfully submitted that the referenced section of Yamaguchi describes "binarized fingerprint image is thinning-processed by the thinning-processing unit 11." It is respectfully submitted that this teaching of Yamaguchi does not rise to a level of teaching the "criteria" that is established during the enrollment and re-used during the authentication.

It is respectfully submitted that the method of claim 1 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Yamaguchi in view of Zhao. For example, Yamaguchi in view of Zhao does not teach, disclose or suggest, a method that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis added) "defining criteria; creating a robust property set of the object from the measured property set that meet a predetermined robustness criterion; creating a reduced property set from the robust property set, the robust property set includes less information on the actual properties of the object than the measured property set, wherein the criteria guides the creating acts; generating a control value in dependence on properties of the reduced property set; and storing the authentication data including the control value and the criteria that guides the creating acts together on a storage device, wherein the criteria that is stored as a portion of the
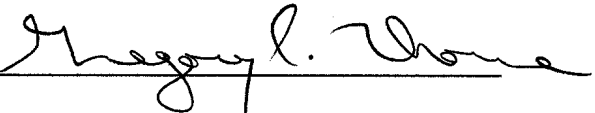
<u>authentication data is not a member of property sets utilized for generating the stored control value and the criteria that is stored as a portion of the authentication data is used for generating an authentication control value that is compared to the stored control value for authenticating the object</u>" as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in each of claims 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18. Each of Ort and Bjorn are introduced for allegedly showing elements of the dependent claims and as such, do nothing to cure the deficiencies in Yamaguchi in view of Zhao.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 are patentable over Yamaguchi in view of Kobayashi and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 2-13 and 19-20 respectively depend from claim 1 and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 12, 2010

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